

Minutes

Metropolitan Council



Meeting Date: October 12, 2022

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Steet

Members Present:

- Chair, Charlie Zelle
- Judy Johnson, District 1
- Reva Chamblis, District 2
- Deb Barber, District 4
- Molly Cummings, District 5

- John Pacheco, District 6
- Robert Lilligren, District 7
- Abdirahman Muse, District 8
- Raymond Zeran, District 9
- Peter Lindstrom, District 10
- Susan Vento, District 11

- Francisco Gonzalez, District 12
- Chai Lee, District 13
- Kris Fredson, District 14
- Phillip Sterner, District 15
- Wendy Wulff, District 16
- = present

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Council Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council to order at 4:00 p.m.

Agenda Approved

Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Vento to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2022 regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

Public Invitation

There were no requests to speak.

Consent Business

Consent Business Adopted (Items 1-4)

1. **2022-204:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute Contract 21P328 with Carollo Engineers for programmable logic controller renewal design, implementation, and construction support services in an amount not to exceed \$10,400,000.
2. **2022-252:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a Cash Flow Financing Plan (the "Plan") for the METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit project (the "Project"), which will allow the Project to borrow up to an aggregate maximum amount of \$40 million from the Council internal investment pool until funds from the associated FFGA are received.
3. **2022-254:** That the Metropolitan Council:
 1. Approve the 2023 Annual Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan, including changes to the Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Plan as described in this report and attachments.

2. Authorize the Metropolitan Council Chair to execute the required certifications.
3. Direct staff to submit the final PHA Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
4. **2022-260:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Joint Powers Cooperative Agreement #22I002 with the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services (“DES”) to allow the Council to utilize their master contracts for cooperative purchasing of rolling stock.

It was moved by Sterner, seconded by Vento.

Motion carried.

Non-Consent Business – Reports of Standing Committees

Community Development

1. Reports on consent agenda.

Environment

1. Reports on consent agenda.

Management

1. **2022-267 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), Local 1005.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Barber.

Motion carried.

Transportation

2. **2022-262:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to apply for calendar 2023 grants from the counties of Anoka, Hennepin, Dakota and Ramsey.

Operating (Base and Non-Annual Share)

1. METRO Blue Line LRT Est. \$14.9M
 - Hennepin County - Est. \$14.9M
2. METRO Green Line LRT Est. \$15.6M
 - Hennepin County – Est. \$9.3M
 - Ramsey County – Est. \$6.3M
3. Northstar Commuter Rail Est. \$6.1M
 - Anoka County – Est. \$4.9M
 - Hennepin County – Est. \$1.2M
4. METRO Orange Line BRT Est. \$2.7M
 - Hennepin County – Est. \$2.3M
 - Dakota County – Est. \$0.4M

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Johnson.

Motion carried.

3. **2022-269 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council:



- Adopt the proposed 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) with a total budget of \$6,386,890 and including \$5,109,512 in federal funds; and,
- Authorize the Regional Administrator to enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation, for distribution of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) planning funds.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Chamblis.

Motion carried

Information

1. Public Comment Budget Update and 2023-2028 Capital Program

Marie Henderson, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, introduced the presentation and gave an overview of Council budget development. Ned Smith, Director of Finance and Pretreatment, Environmental Services (ES), gave an update on the ES capital program budget, which is \$2.04B. He also shared information about the ES future spending budget, which is \$1.81B. Capital program objectives are to preserve assets, meet capacity needs, and improve quality of service. Smith also shared information about upcoming programs and projects.

Nick Thompson, Deputy General Manager, Capital Programs; Ed Petrie, Finance Director, Metro Transit; and Nickolas Hendrikson, Finance Manager, Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS) shared information about the Transit capital program budget. The Transit capital program budget is \$7.38B, and the Transit future spending budget is \$4.83B. Petrie also shared information about notable modifications to the program, including major commitments and adjustments. Hendrikson shared information about Metro Mobility state appropriations and MTS fleet growth. The largest piece of the Transit Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is \$3.3B for transitways. Council Members had questions and comments about the consideration operating and staffing expenses, and the reserves of spare buses.

Hendrikson also gave an overview of the Community Development capital program budget. The Community Development capital program budget is \$407M; the future spending budget is \$330M. Council Members had questions and comments about the housing portfolio and purchase of Council-owned housing units, the number of larger Council-owned homes, HRA housing vouchers, and the impact of the economy on housing systems.

2. Climate Action Work Plan Update

Lisa Barajas, Director, Community Development, shared the Climate Action Work Plan. Council Member Lindstrom shared introductory comments as the Chair of the Climate Action Work Group. The Climate Action Work Plan was developed in response to the Council's goal of an agency-wide sustainability plan and aligns with the Minnesota Climate Action Framework. Past and current climate work includes tools, partnerships, and actions, such as the Climate Vulnerability Assessment and the Twin Cities Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory. Barajas shared the project timeline, which began in Q1-2 2021; implementation will be in Q1 of 2023 and beyond. The Council is the largest source of emissions among agency partners due to purchased electricity and mobile combustion. This plan is internal to Council planning and operations over a five-year timeframe; it is not a regional climate action plan. This plan does lay the groundwork for more action beyond 2027. The climate plan commitments are: 1. We will incorporate environmental justice principles as we plan, implement, and evaluate our climate action work; 2. We will accelerate emissions reductions from our operations to achieve carbon neutrality; 3. We will accelerate regional emissions reduction through existing and new partnerships; 4. We will reduce risks and impacts of climate change hazards to our facilities and services; and 5. We will support and collaborate with partners to advance regional climate adaptation efforts. Recommendations from the Recommendations from the Environmental Justice Task Force have been applied to the Climate Action Plan. The Climate Action Work Group has also engaged external partners for collaboration.



Council Member Sterner asked about the committee schedule and bringing the Climate Action Work Plan to the Equity Advisory Committee and the Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee. Barajas responded that the Equity Justice Task Force will be presenting to the Equity Advisory Committees. Council Members also had questions and comments about a regional climate action plan and the prioritization of items on the list.

Reports

Council Member Lee shared that he will be attending the Gold Line Groundbreaking next Wednesday, October 19; Council Member Vento will be attending as well. Council Member Lilligren will be attending a grand opening of an affordable housing project in the Jordan neighborhood in Minneapolis. The Council contributed close to \$1M in grants for this project. Council Member Lilligren also acknowledged Hannah Pallmeyer as she moves on to a new position in Government Affairs. The Chair, Regional Administrator, and General Counsel did not have any reports.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of October 12, 2022.

Approved this 26th day of October 2022.

Council Contact:

Bridget Toskey, Recording Secretary
Bridget.Toskey@metc.state.mn.us
651-602-1806

